

PREFACE

This is a continuation of the printing of the journals of the Texas Legislatures which met during the Civil War. It is the first printing despite the fact that the journals were ordered published contemporaneously and that two efforts were later made to place them in book form. The exigencies of war prevented the journals from being printed at the end of the sessions of the ninth legislature, while the later efforts of E. W. Winkler and Harriet Smither probably failed because of a shortage of both staff and funds.

On the pages of this journal are recorded the efforts of a group of dedicated men to the principles in which they believed. The central theme of the book is the prosecution of the war. The work of the Texas Military Board is dealt with at some length as it represented the heart of the Texas war effort. This board penetrated into the lives of Texans in the Confederate Army, the state penitentiary, and the public at large. It employed agents, sold bonds, purchased cotton, gunpowder, a gun boat, and weapons, and attempted to alleviate the suffering of Texas soldiers serving in the South. It comes as no surprise that authority for this operation was centralized in the hands of the governor, the comptroller, and the treasurer; nor was it considered unusual that the legislature saw fit to appoint a committee to see that these three top officials had properly performed their duties. One might be surprised to find the idea of subsidies to private enterprise expressed. The senators went to some length in discussing the "black book" to be kept by the county clerk of each county. The purpose of this book was to list the names of those who refused to support the Confederacy. This particular measure fell by the wayside, but its discussion points to an attitude on the part of those involved in running the state government.

In compiling and editing this journal every effort has been made to keep the original "flavor" of the 1860's and at the same time make it an accurate, readable journal. The journal book from which the editing was accomplished looks to be in the handwriting of Phineas de Cordova, the secretary of the senate, and it understandably has some inaccuracies and omissions in it. The editor has aimed at

standardizing the spelling of such items and has attempted to locate the omissions and place them in context. When this has been accomplished the inserted material is noted in [] brackets or in a footnote. Efforts were made to locate all speeches, committee reports, and other pertinent material, but this sometimes met with no success. When that is the case, it is so noted.

The illustrations are included to add a bit of color to the proceedings. The picture of Congress Avenue and the state capitol show where the senate met, while the photograph of Senator Leroy W. Cooper shows one man involved in the operation. Benjamin F. Terry's photograph is included because his death was the cause of great eloquence and mourning (see **Journal of the Senate of the Ninth Legislature, Regular Session**, 165-167). Governor Francis R. Lubbock is included because he was responsible for calling the legislature into special session.

This preface could not be closed without expressing appreciation to Mary Osburn, Newton Mitchell, Floree Haire, Georgia Yarbrough, and Kenneth Nations who kept the reference work going and allowed the time necessary for completing this work. To Donna Yarbrough and Bill Kleinschmidt thanks is given for assistance in compiling the index.

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